

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/269,624

Applicant(s)

ANGUS ET AL.

Examiner

JEAN B. FLEURANTIN

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02 March 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30, 47, 83 and 85-91.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> . |


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to Applicant's remarks filed 02 March 2005. Claims 1-30, 47, 83 and 85-91 have been selected as indicated in section 2.

Response to Arguments

2. In response to applicant's argument, page 2, last paragraph, that "since claim 83 does not require "the entity records comprise a hierarchical structure," but claim 83 does require a data processing system having entities records storing data indicating relationships between entities. Arguments are persuasive; therefore the independent claim 83 and all dependent are included into the selected claims 1-30, 47, 83 and 85-91. Please cancel claims 48-50 and 84.
3. Claims 1-30, 47, 83 and 85-91 remain pending for examination.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. With respect to claims 1-30, 47, 83 and 85-91 are allowed over the prior art of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claims 1 and 47, the claimed features "each said entity being represented by a single corresponding entity record, said entity records storing data indicating relationships between said entities, and each said relationship being associated with a historical period of validity" in conjunction with other elements of the independent claims would not found anticipated or obvious over the prior art made of record. With respect to claim 83, the claimed features "multiple entity records and association records which conform to the data model, each of the multiple entity records comprising an entity record for each said entity conforming to one of said classes, said association records storing data indicating past or present relationships between a pair of said entities, and each said entity record containing data associating each said relationship with a historical period of validity" in conjunction with other elements of the independent claims would not found anticipated or obvious over the prior art made of record. With respect to claims 85 and 86, the claimed features "selecting said subset based on both the stored in said operation records and the historical periods of validity associated with the relationships of said selected entities" in conjunction with other elements of the independent claims would not found anticipated or obvious over the prior art made of record. With respect to claim 87, the claimed features "both said metadata and data associated with at least one entity having a historical period of

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validity associated with it" in conjunction with other elements of the independent claims would not found anticipated or obvious over the prior art made of record.

The dependent claims, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

The closest prior art, Doktor U.S. Patent Number 5,617,567 relates to computer database management systems. Eisenberg U.S. Patent Number 5,504,879 relates to a database management system which manages multiple versions of data but fail to teach the above limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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CONTACT INFORMATION

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEAN B. FLEURANTIN whose telephone number is 571 – 272-4035. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:05 to 4:35.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN E BREENE can be reached on 571 – 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-308-6606.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jean Bolte Fleurantin

Patent Examiner

Technology Center 2100

May 13, 2005



SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER